

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This amendment is to cancel claims and to comply with requirements of form set forth in the office action. The listing of claims on the attached sheets will replace, without prejudice to re-file in a divisional or other continuing application, all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

As a result of this amendment, the pending claims are 2-10 and 12-14. The Applicant believes that these claims are allowed or in condition for allowance in conformity with the office action, and requests notice of allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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BY 
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Listing of claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Original) ~~A gas generator according to claim 1,~~ A solid-propellant gas generator for well stimulation, comprising:

a tubular assembly of propellant charge having an outside surface and a central channel,
part of the assembly being clad on its outer surface to prevent burning from that surface, and part
of the assembly being bare on its outer surface, wherein the propellant charge comprises a
plurality of cylindrical charges stacked end to end, and wherein at least one of the charges is clad
and at least one of the charges is bare; and

an igniter arranged to initiate burning of the propellant charge along the whole length of
the central channel and the bare part of the outer surface.

3. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 2, wherein the at least one clad charge
is covered by a layer of substantially incombustible material adhering to the surface of the
charge.

4. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 3, wherein the cladding layer on the
least one clad charge overlaps and protects the end of an adjacent bare charge.

5. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 3, wherein there are a plurality of
adjacent bare charges, and the join between them is encased in a protective ring.

6. (Previously presented) A solid-propellant gas generator for well stimulation,
comprising:

a tubular assembly of propellant charge having an outside surface and a central channel, part of the assembly being clad on its outer surface to prevent burning from that surface, and part of the assembly being bare on its outer surface; and

an igniter arranged to initiate burning of the propellant charge along the whole length of the central channel and the bare part of the outer surface;

wherein the propellant charge comprises a plurality of cylindrical charges stacked end to end, and wherein at least one of the charges is clad and at least one of the charges is bare;

which comprises a plurality of clad charges and a plurality of bare charges, and wherein all the clad charges are adjacent and all the bare charges are adjacent.

7. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 6, wherein the igniter is positioned within the endmost bare charge.

8. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 2, which comprises a primary charge having the igniter positioned within its central channel.

9. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 8, wherein the primary charge is a bare charge.

10. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 8, wherein the diameter of the central channel of the primary charge is greater than that of other charges.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) A solid-propellant gas generator for well stimulation, comprising:

a tubular assembly of propellant charge having an outside surface and a central channel, part of the assembly being clad on its outer surface to prevent burning from that surface, and part of the assembly being bare on its outer surface; and

an igniter arranged to initiate burning of the propellant charge along the whole length of the central channel and the bare part of the outer surface;

comprising an attachment for a cable to lower the gas generator into a well; and

wherein the igniter is at a lower end of the gas generator, and is provided with an attachment for a cable passing along the central channel.

13. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 12, comprising a lower end cap attached to the igniter.

14. (Original) A gas generator according to claim 13, comprising an upper end cap with an attachment for the cable, and arranged to hold the cable in tension in the channel and the charge in compression.

15 - 37. (Cancelled)